

**CITIZENS INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST (CITT)**

October 29, 2003  
Stephen P. Clark Center  
111 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
County Commission Chambers  
10:00 a.m.

**Summary of Minutes**

**CITT MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Hon. John F. Cosgrove, Chair  
Marc Buoniconti, Vice-Chair  
Hon. Mike Abrams  
Lt. Col. Antonio Colmenares  
Henry Lee Givens  
Franklin Kelly  
Luis C. Morse  
Miles Moss  
James Reeder  
Theodore Wilde

**COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:**

Robert Cuevas  
Bruce Libhaber

**COUNTY STAFF:**

Carlos Bonzon, Ph.D., P.E., Surface Transportation Manager  
Roosevelt Bradley, Director, MDT  
Clinton Forbes, MDT  
Nestor Toledo, CITT  
Patty David, CITT  
Alina Philipp, CITT  
Patrice Rosemond, CITT  
Virginia Diaz, CITT  
Pepe Valdes, CITT  
Hilda Fernandez, Mayor's Office

## **ROLL CALL**

With a quorum being present, Mr. Cosgrove, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Mr. Cosgrove presented Mr. Abrams a plaque on behalf of the CITT members for their appreciation of his leadership as the interim chairman of the CITT.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Cosgrove requested a motion to approve the September 24, 2003 minutes. Mr. Moss moved approval, seconded by LtCol Colmenares and carried without dissent.

## **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Peter Evans, Vice-President Metro Aqua Cats introduced Rita Sheil, President, Metro Aqua Cats. Ms. Shiel stated that the goal of Metro Aqua Cats is to help alleviate the transportation system.

Richard Carlon, Optima Bus Corporation, Kansas City. Requested to make presentation at the next Project Review Committee meeting on November 10, 2003. Mr. Cosgrove asked him to meet with LtCol Colmenares after the meeting to make the appropriate arrangements.

## **REPORTS**

### *CHAIRMAN'S REPORT*

Mr. Cosgrove reported that he met with George Burgess, County Manager, on October 23, 2003. He stated that the Manager is very supportive of the needs of the CITT. (distributed a copy of the discussion topics) The CITT will have an independent Executive Director; a person has been identified and will be announced soon. The Executive Director will have the responsibility of selecting CITT staff according to Miami-Dade County procedures with CITT input. A resolution was approved by the CITT and submitted to the Manager who has agreed to an Independent Financial Advisor. The CITT will first review the County's pool of financial advisors if they do not meet the CITT requirements, the Trust will make a separate recommendation to the Manager for his approval, which he has indicated that he would approve. Mr. Cosgrove appointed the following members to serve on the Financial Advisor selection committee, Mr. Abrams, Chair, Mr. Buoniconti, Mr. Wilde, Mr. Givens, and Ms. Labrousse. Mr. Cosgrove expressed to the Manager the CITT needs to have an independent budget. The budget should be in a separate account to distinguish costs for operations. These costs include salaries for staff and administrative costs, such as, travel, meeting expenses and miscellaneous. He has asked Mr. Wilde, Chairman of Budget and Finance Committee to prepare an internal budget. The Ordinance states that the surtax proceeds would be kept in a separate account. He asked Dr. Bonzon to report at the next CITT meeting what has been done to separate those funds.

Dr. Bonzon responded that he has spoken to David Morris, Budget Director, and Rachael Baum, Finance Director and both have assured him that those funds have been placed in a special fund. All the surtax proceeds are accounted for with the exception of the \$13 million that have been given to the municipalities.

Mr. Cosgrove suggested providing the MDT Director with the flexibility to make adjustments to the Metrobus and Metrorail routes when necessary and then obtain

retroactive approval from the CITT. If the CITT disapproves of the adjustments it will then go back to its current schedule. The CITT needs to be able to review contracts before they are approved by the BCC. It was suggested to Dr. Bonzon that it would be ideal for the CITT to review contract(s) at the same time it goes before the BCC Transportation Committee. This will give the CITT members an opportunity to make any comments or voice any concerns.

Mr. Givens reported that he has attended two South Dade Busway Citizens' advisory meetings in Homestead. His concern is that any action taken by the CITT may have a negative impact to businesses in that area. The CITT needs to position itself so that it does not create a financial burden to those businesses. Homestead business community is not provided the information that is given to other communities that may be affected by a government decision. He is working with Commissioner Moss to schedule a public hearing and will report back to the CITT. (a copy of a memo from Suzet Rice was distributed)

Mr. Cosgrove mentioned that he has asked staff to invite MPO to make a presentation at the next CITT meeting on November 19, 2003 regarding the Transit Corridors. As well Jose Abreu, Florida Department of Transportation State District Secretary is invited to the December 17, 2003 meeting. Mr. Cosgrove asked Patrice Rosemond to update the members on the upcoming Transportation Conference, Saturday, November 8, 2003. Ms. Rosemond provided the members with a brief summary and a copy of the "Recommended CITT member Participation". Virginia Diaz also added that 1200 invitations have been distributed to various homeowner associations, Chambers of Commerce, and community organizations. Presentations will be provided by MDT and PDW. The Mayor, Dr. Carey-Shuler, Commissioner Barreiro and Commissioner Moss will also be attending. Mr. Cosgrove asked the members to contact staff if they plan to participate.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### ***BUDGET AND FINANCE – THEODORE WILDE***

Mr. Wilde reported and distributed a copy of this report that included the following topics: Long-term financial projections, CITT role in approving contracts, The Washington Group contract, and Questions and Concerns needing further information and response from the County.

Dr. Bonzon stated that the final draft of the 30-year pro forma would be completed by October 31, 2003. He is scheduled to make a presentation at the next Budget and Finance Committee meeting regarding the pro forma on November 10, 2003 and by that time the final copy should be finished. Staff is working on the "Checklist" that will address the questions and concerns raised by the members for approving a request or contract. In addition, once all the information has been provided the appropriate department director and the county attorney will be required to sign off that all the information presented to the CITT has been reviewed and is legally acceptable.

LtCol Colmenares asked if the projected level of funding is going to be available to conduct the F & G inspections. Mr. Bradley responded that the funding for the F & G inspections have always been a part of the pro forma.

Mr. Wilde stated that the future maintenance will not have a proportionate share coming from the county's maintenance of effort if it is kept at the current level; it will in effect come from new funding particularly, from the surtax.

Mr. Morse asked Mr. Wilde being the chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee how much surtax monies has been collected since November 5, 2002 and what has been spent. Mr. Wilde said he could not answer those questions.

Dr. Bonzon informed the members that \$81 million has been collected and \$13 million has been distributed to the municipalities. In addition, Dr. Bonzon asked to be added to the Budget and Finance Committee monthly agenda to report on the status of the surtax monies. Mr. Cosgrove noted that once the 30-year pro forma is completed it will answer most of those questions, however, those figures need to be broken down into a five-year plan. The CITT five-year plan needs to be consistent with every other transportation element such as; Federal, State, MPO and other local governments that work with a five-year plans.

#### **PROJECT REVIEW – LTCOL ANTONIO COLMENARES**

LtCol Colmenares informed the members that Alberto Delgado, Director Coral Gables Public Works Department attended the PRC meeting October 8, 2003 and public apologized for the misspoken comments made during the August 27, 2003 PRC meeting. In addition, he called and apologized to Mr. Givens who was offended by the poor choice of words. LtCol Colmenares recognized Anita Pittman, Terry Walderon from the Citizens Advisory Committee. He distributed a copy of the North Corridor alignment along 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue and stated that the CITT should fully support that alignment since it is the choice of the residents in that community. Announced that the next PRC meeting is scheduled for 11/10/03 at 6:00 p.m. at South Miami Commission Chambers. The City of Miami will be presenting how it is spending its portion of the surtax proceeds on transportation.

#### **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – LUIS C. MORSE**

Mr. Morse stated that he has asked staff to provide the committee with a status report the state fuel gas tax and the high-speed train. Once the information is received he will report back to the Trust. A list of transportation publications and a list of transportation conferences nationwide were distributed. Any members interested in receiving a publication(s) or attending a conference should inform staff. This will be contingent upon the budget.

#### **BYLAWS- LTCOL ANTONIO COLMENARES**

LtCol Colmenares stated that the Bylaws are 80% completed. He thanked the members, staff and the citizens for their participation. At the Chairman's request, a workshop has been scheduled for Saturday, November 8, 2003, immediately following the Transportation Conference from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### **External Affairs Resolutions**

- 5A1 Resolution by the CITT supporting the East-West Transit Corridor's minimum operable segment as outlined in the PTP. A transit project starting at the Palmetto Expressway proceeding eastward along the Dolphin expressway, connecting at the Miami Intermodal Center and Miami International Airport, through downtown Miami to the Port of Miami.

LtCol Colmenares moved approval of the Resolution in support of the East-West Corridor, seconded by Mr. Moss.

Mr. Wilde stated that the resolution is a reaffirmation of what is already legally established as part of the Ordinance for the PTP. Mr. Libhaber, Assistant County Attorney said the resolution does not need approval of the BCC; it is an expression of CITT support of the project.

LtCol Colmenares withdrew his motion.

Upon much discussion among the members, Mr. Cosgrove suggested withdrawing action items 5A1 and 5A2 since the CITT has already reaffirmed those projects in the PTP and asked the chair of the committee to write a letter of support instead.

- 5A3 Resolution by the CITT encouraging all municipalities to comply with the submittal of transportation plans by December 31, 2003 and recommending to the BCC a cessation of distribution of surtax funds to those municipalities failing to meet such deadline.

Dr. Bonzon stated that some municipalities lack the expertise for preparing a transportation plan. Therefore, the External Affairs committee suggested that staff prepare a boilerplate that will assist those municipalities. Mr. Cosgrove asked staff to send a copy of the resolution, a transmittal letter, and the boilerplate to all the municipalities.

Mr. Moss moved approval of the resolution. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Project Review Resolutions**

- 5B1 LtCol Colmenares requested approval for the following resolution:

Resolution by the CITT requesting the MPO conduct a study of Metro Aqua Cats, Inc. service proposal; to be funded under the Urban Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Frank Hernandez, Chairman, Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee, informed the members that CTAC approved a resolution supporting the concept/idea of using the waterway for transportation. The members did not want to endorse any particular company. A copy of the resolution is available.

Peter Evans, Vice-President, Metro Aqua Cats, stated that there has not been any other company that has come forth with a plan to use the waterways for a mass rapid transportation. The People's Transportation Plan does not address the use the waterways. He has presented his proposal to various committees as requested. He distributed a copy of the CTAC resolution.

Max Glasgow, CTAC member stated that it was his understanding that the CITT is to oversee actions taken by the Board of County Commissioners. Projects such as Metro Aqua Cats should go through the MPO or through the Miami Dade

County process before it is reviewed by the CITT.

Because there were various concerns raised by the members, Mr. Cosgrove deferred the resolution back to the Project Review Committee for further discussion. Mr. Givens moved to defer the resolution back to the PRC for further consideration, seconded by Mr. Morse and carried without dissent.

- 5B2 Resolution by the CITT approving the action of the BCC of awarding Contract No. TA02-MR26 to provide engineering services for the Metrorail and phase one Metromover midlife vehicle fleet overhaul and modernization project with Washington Infrastructure, Inc.

Mr. Givens moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Kelly and carried without dissent.

### **Budget and Finance Resolutions**

- 5C1 Motion that the CITT will not approve any contract forwarded by the BCC until the CITT receives a 30-year fiscal plan outlining the anticipated revenues and expenditures associated with the PTP.

Mr. Wilde added the word "further" to: Now, therefore, be it resolved by the CITT, that this Trust will not approve any further contract forwarded by the BCC until the CITT receives a 30-year fiscal plan outlining the anticipated revenues and expenditures associated with the PTP.

Mr. Cosgrove asked for a motion to approve the resolution with the amendment. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Givens asked what would occur if the BCC approved and forwarded an emergency contract to the CITT and the Trust has not yet received the 30-year pro forma. Mr. Libhaber responded that the motion does not need BCC approval. The CITT is expressing a policy of the CITT. The CITT can create exception to its own policy for emergency consideration. There is nothing that can prevent the Trust from voting on an emergency item.

Mr. Roosevelt Bradley, Director, MDT, indicated that CITT approved the purchase of new buses, however, the facility is not available to store the new buses. Last year MDT added 5 million miles, this year MDT is on target with the 5-year plan as it states in the PTP to add an additional 2 million miles. Unfortunately, there is no facility to store the buses. Another contract will come before the CITT for the facility for the buses. He would like the CITT to consider the Penske Contract. Mr. Cosgrove asked Mr. Bradley to provide the Secretariat with a copy of the contract to be added to the appropriate committee agenda.

Mr. Wilde stated that Mr. Given's comments are well taken and the CITT is not trying to be antagonistic, however, other projects will also be affected if the funds are short. Dr. Bonzon stated that the pro forma will be completed Friday, October 31, 2003.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Libhaber informed the members that on October 21, 2003 the BCC approved an interlocal agreement with the City of Hialeah. The agreement provides reimbursement of up to \$5,500,560.56 in surtax proceeds from the PTP for construction of improvements to NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue (West 8 Avenue) from NW 105<sup>th</sup> Street (West 51 Place) to NW 139<sup>th</sup> Street (West 84<sup>th</sup> Street). The item needs CITT approval. The BCC action has not even gone into effect yet because it was only approved eight days ago and the Mayor has 10 days to veto an item. Mr. Cosgrove asked that all items be reviewed first by the Compliance and Oversight Committee staff and then forward it to the Project Review Committee and last to the Budget and Finance Committee.

Nestor Toledo, Acting Secretariat announced that the CITT members are invited to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary PTP Press Conference at 10:30 a.m., November 5, 2003 at the SPCC. The deadline to submit applications for the CITT is October 31, 2003, at 4:30 p.m. The current vacant seats are 2, 6, 11, and 13. Mr. Cosgrove stated he would like the new members to be sworn in by the next CITT meeting, November 19, 2003. The Trust has also expressed its concern to have more female members.

LtCol Colmenares discussed the proposed bus improvements for December 7, 2003 lineup (a copy of the memo was distributed). MDT recommendations include adding, modifying, and/or discontinuing of bus routes to provide for the operation of a viable and efficient bus system. He would like to enter it to new business in the PRC. He said he will survey the bus improvement routes, and report back to the CITT. In addition, a request to provide the MDT Director the flexibility to make service improvements will be reviewed. Mr. Cosgrove asked that those issues be reviewed at the PRC and then at the Budget and Finance Committee. In addition, he asked that both chairmen establish a policy as to how to review the flexibility issues before it is approved.

LtCol Colmenares suggested that a Trust member should be part of the contract selection committee that will utilize surtax monies. Mr. Cosgrove responded that he would like to refer that item to the Executive Planning Committee. In addition, he proposed to conduct a traffic flow study. Mr. Cosgrove responded that the Trust's jurisdiction is over surtax proceeds only unless the study would enhance the usage of those funds. The PWD oversees the traffic problem. He also recommended further discussion at the next Executive Planning Committee meeting on Thursday, November 13, 2003.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the CITT meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.